



# OTOE-MISSOURIA TRIBE OF INDIANS

8151 HIGHWAY 177  
RED ROCK, OK 74651-0348

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of

Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by	)	WT Docket No. 17-79
Removing Barriers of Infrastructure Investment	)	
	)	
Revising the Historic Preservation Review Process	)	WT Docket No. 15-180
for Wireless Facility Deployments	)	

COMMENTS OF: Otoe-Missouria Tribe

April 13, 2017

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The Otoe-Missouria Tribe is currently located in North Central Oklahoma in Red Rock. The Otoe-Missouria Tribe historically occupied a wide range of lands from around the Great Lakes and many present-day states. The Otoe-Missouria Tribe works with an assortment of federal agencies on a variety of projects in the compliance of federal laws, including but not limited to the NHPA, NAGPRA, ARPA, and NEPA. The Otoe-Missouria Tribe protects irreplaceable sites and locations that are of religious and cultural significance to the Otoe-Missouria people today by continuing the successful collaborative processes that have been established with federal agencies, other Indian tribes, and project developers.

The Federal Communications Commission's Tower Construction Notification System (TCNS) system has proven to be a very useful tool to track, monitor, and expedite the placement of cellular technology infrastructure. Over the past year, we have worked with and developed quality relationships with the many consultants installing telecommunication infrastructure facilities, including cell tower siting, through the TCNS Program. The Otoe-Missouria Tribe provides prompt response to cell tower notifications. If and when any situations arise using the TCNS Program, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe have been able to promptly contact industry consultants and/or FCC staff to expedite resolutions. With the emerging 5G technologies by the wireless telecommunications industry, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe can see the benefits of modernizing the existing TCNS system to meet the Otoe-Missouria Tribe needs. Though technically not a local government for the purposes of this rulemaking, Indian tribes face many of the same challenges that have described in the Public Notice and which the telecommunications industry has mentioned as a concern to their interests.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe has worked well with the industry for the past year. The communication process between the Otoe-Missouria Tribe and the Industry has increased as improvement continues to develop.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe recently obtained their THPO status, there are still a multitude of research needed to evaluate historic properties.

All THPOs are unique in their own way due to the diversity of cultural traditions and values. The same goes for SHPOs, there are different values in place for historic preservation based on the state's history.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe developed a good working relationship with consultants at conferences and meetings by networking, sharing ideas and concepts, and following up with any issues. There should be a reporting mechanism of success stories between the tribes and Industry.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe rarely has an issue regarding tribal delay. The only issues encountered are minor, such as typical business errors.

The areas of interest claimed by Sovereign Nations increase due to the increase of more Sovereign Nations being recognized with THPO status and more research/surveys are being conducted pertaining to Sovereign Nations' areas of interests.



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We believe that the review process involving NHPA, NEPA, SHPO, Sovereign Nations, ect. is very important and critical to the construction of any project.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe would like to meet with both the Industry and the FCC to learn more about the Industry's experiences and discuss possible solutions to proposed wireless deployment, including the Twilight Towers.

Thank you,

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